

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 05075 130851Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----032673 130854Z /23

R 121438Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7185
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5075

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, PDEV, LE IS, PLO, SY, SA, KU
SUBJECT: ISRAEL'S ATTITUDE TOWARD DEPLOYMENT OF SYRIAN
FORCES SOUTHWARD

REF: BEIRUT 3240

1. I NOTED AMBASSADOR PARKER'S REQUEST FOR DEPARTMENT'S
COMMENTS ON BOUTROS' QUERY IN PARA FIVE OF REFTEL. THIS
SUBJECT HAS COME UP IN DIFFERENT WAYS IN SEVERAL OF MY
RECENT CONVERSATIONS HERE.

2. THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS CON-
TINUES TO HOLD THE VIEW THAT IT CAN UNDER NO RPT NO
CIRCUMSTANCES ACCEPT THE PRESENCE OF SYRIAN FORCES
FURTHER SOUTH THAN THEY ARE PRESENTLY DEPLOYED. THE
OVERRIDING ISRAELI MILITARY CONCERN IS TO PRECLUDE
FACING POSSIBLE HOSTILITIES WITH SYRIA AT SOME POINT
IN THE FUTURE WITH THEIR NORTHERN DEFENSE BORDER
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EXTENDED TO INCLUDE THE LEBANESE FRONTIER. ALTHOUGH
I SUPPOSE THAT VIEW MIGH CONCEIVABLY CHANGE IF
THERE WERE A CREDIBLE UN FORCE AND A BUFFER ZONE ALONG
ISRAEL'S NORTHERN BORDER, IT CERTAINLY WOULD NOT CHANGE
EASILY.

3. THE ISRAELIS ARE CURRENTLY VERY WORRIED ABOUT THE

SLOW BUILD UP OF PALESTINIAN FORCES NEAR THE BORDER,
AS I HAVE REPORTED SEPARATELY. BUT THEY ARE SURE THAY
CAN, IF THEY HAVE TO, DEAL WITH THE PALESTINIANS
THEMSELVES, ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD MUCH PREFER OTHER
SOLUTIONS. IF THEY HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN HAVING
PALESTINIANS ON THEIR BORDER AND HAVING SYRIANS NEARER
THIER BORDER WITH FEWER PALESTINIANS, THE ISRAELIS WOULD
CERTAINLY CHOOSE THE FIRST ALTERNATIVE.
LEWIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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